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Raven Hill Discovery Center is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation.

Mission: Raven Hill provides a place that enhances hands-on and lifelong learning for all ages by connecting science, history & the arts.

To: friends and family everywhere

From: Cheri and Raven Hill

Date: June 5, 2020

Re: Update

Hope everyone is well, staying home and playing it safe. I am at home as much as possible and actually enjoyed my first week, since mid-February, of not writing any grant applications! So nice to be done with that aspect of Raven Hill, at least for a while!

In fact, I spent today dividing and repotting house plants. In 1971, Tim and I purchased a philodendron, when we moved to Key West. We brought it back to Michigan in the dead of winter—just the roots. The plant traveled with us to Nebraska and then back to Michigan! When we moved north in 1983, it came with us! At some point in time, I divided it into



quarters. It's been a while, so today, each of the four got split in half and repotted! Now—I really do **not** need eight philodendron plants! I have found homes for three of them, so I am looking to re-home four more. If anyone is interested, let me know! Thanks to Ed and Diane Strzelinski for taking one of the philodendrons and for helping me split them in half, along with replacing two outside spigots, which had frozen last winter and burst! Luckily, the plumbing job was not above Ed's pay grade!



Raven Hill is also looking for someone, who might be interested in giving this beautiful little boat some TLC, so that it is in great shape for display during the **Smithsonian Labor Days History of Work 2021** exhibit. If you are up to the challenge or know someone, who might be, please email or call.

Checkers, the corn snake, and I zoomed again this week with 22 kids and 13 adults in Massachusetts! Also had a teacher call about booking a field trip for a class of 9 in late August. And Bay View Association invited Checkers; Spike, the bearded dragon; and Fluffy, the box turtle, to visit their families in July—social distancing, outside and me at a distance with a mask! Raven Hill is still closed to the public, but we may try to be open by appointment to families, if we figure out how to do it safely. Maybe we can even have some two-hour family day camps or “bubble” camps? That is, camp for kids who have already been together at play dates, etc. Lots of details still to work out and nothing set in stone! If you have any ideas, feel free to share.

If you have an opportunity, please extend a big thank you to the following supporters, who have helped Raven Hill in these very uncertain times. The Charlevoix County Community Foundation awarded \$1,000 from their Sun Fund for emergency roof repairs. Raven Hill received COVID relief funding from the Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation for \$5,000 and the Michigan Humanities HOPE program for \$7500. Michigan Humanities has also funded Raven Hill's request for \$15,000 for the **Labor Days** exhibit. This award will help the Center continue with the research, design, construction and printing of 121 exhibit panels. We are waiting to hear about a couple other grant applications that have been submitted recently and will keep you posted.

Please keep relatives, friends and strangers in your thoughts, especially those suffering from COVID or injustice of any kind. Reach out to people—give them strength, comfort, peace and love—whatever they need. And keep in touch: 231.675.6025!

Cheri